

In the claims:

Following is a complete set of claims as amended with this Response.

26. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

monitoring usage of a web browser of a computer by usage of a computer user during a usage session;

recording information at the computer including hypertext links selected by the user during the monitored session;

analyzing the recorded hypertext links at the computer to determine a user interest for the session; and

automatically generating a search engine query by the computer based on the determined interest;

transmitting the generated search engine query from the computer to at least one remote web site to query the at least one remote web site; and

receiving query results at the computer from the at least one remote web site based on the query.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein analyzing comprises parsing hypertext links selected by the user into words and determining the user interest based on the parsed words.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein determining the user interest comprises determining the user interest based on the content of the hypertext links using heuristics.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein analyzing comprises applying the hypertext links to keyword tables stored in the computer, the keyword tables comprising words that are indicative of the user interest.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising displaying a set of words to the computer user indicative of the determined user interest and displaying a button for the user to click on to indicate a desire to receive information regarding the displayed set of words.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising displaying an icon to the computer user for the user to click on to start the usage session.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising determining a change in the user interest by comparing recorded information to ~~stored~~ category profiles stored in the computer.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein monitoring further comprises at least one of:

monitoring time spent at a network site;

monitoring network pages bookmarked by the user;

monitoring frequency that particular network pages are visited; and

monitoring the content of visited network pages, and

wherein analyzing comprises analyzing the recorded information and the hypertext links to determine a user interest for the session.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein generating the query is in response to a user action and is based on the content of an item or a document currently being displayed.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein generating a search engine query comprises constructing queries to perform searches using search engines on a plurality of web sites based on the user interest, the method further comprising transmitting the queries to the plurality of web sites.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, further comprising receiving search result documents from the web sites, the search result documents comprising a plurality of search result entries, filtering the search result entries based on the determined interest, and selecting a subset of the search result entries based on the filtering.

37. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing instructions which, when executed by a computer machine, cause the computer machine to perform operations comprising:

monitoring usage of a web browser of a computer ~~by usage of~~ a computer user during a usage session;

recording information at the computer including hypertext links selected by the user during the monitored session;

analyzing the recorded hypertext links at the computer to determine a user interest for the session; ~~and~~

automatically generating a search engine query by the computer based on the determined interest;

transmitting the generated search engine query from the computer to at least one remote web site to query the at least one remote web site; and

receiving query results at the computer from the at least one remote web site based on the query.

38. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 37, wherein the instructions for analyzing comprise instructions which, when executed by the computer machine, cause the computer machine to perform further operations comprising parsing hypertext links selected by the user into words and determining the user interest based on the parsed words.

39. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 37, wherein the instructions for analyzing comprise instructions which, when executed by the computer machine, cause the computer machine to perform further operations comprising applying the hypertext links to keyword tables stored in the computer, the keyword tables comprising words that are indicative of the user interest.

40. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 37, further comprising instructions which, when executed by the computer machine, cause the computer machine to perform operations comprising displaying a set of words to the computer user indicative of the determined user interest and displaying a button for the user to click on to indicate a desire to receive information regarding the displayed set of words.

41. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 37, wherein the instructions for generating the query are executed in response to a user action and based on the content of an item or a document currently being displayed.

42. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 37, wherein the instructions for generating a search engine query comprise instructions which, when executed by the computer machine, cause the computer machine to perform further operations comprising

constructing queries to perform searches using search engines on a plurality of web sites based on the user interest, and wherein the instructions further comprise instructions for transmitting the queries to the plurality of web sites.

43. (Currently Amended) A profile agent for a computer system comprising:
an activity monitor to monitor usage of a web browser of the computer system
~~usage of~~ by a computer user during a usage session, to record information on the
computer system including hypertext links selected by the user during the monitored
session, and to analyze the recorded hypertext links at the computer system to determine
a user interest for the session; and

a query engine to automatically generate a search engine query at the computer
system based on the determined interest, to transmit the generated search engine query
from the computer system to at least one remote web site to query the at least one remote
web site, and to receive query results at the computer system from the at least one remote
web site based on the query.

44. (Previously Presented) The agent of claim 43, wherein the activity monitor
parses hypertext links selected by the user into words and determines the user interest
based on the parsed words.

45. (Previously Presented) The agent of claim 43, wherein the activity monitor
determines the user interest based on the content of the hypertext links using heuristics.

46. (Currently Amended) The agent of claim 43 wherein the activity monitor
comprises keyword tables stored at the computer system and analyzes the hypertext links
by comparing the hypertext links to the keyword tables, the keyword tables comprising
words that are indicative of the user interest.

47. (Currently Amended) The agent of claim 43, wherein the activity monitor comprises ~~stored~~ category profiles stored at the computer system and determines a shift in the user interest by comparing recorded information to the stored category profiles.

48. (Previously Presented) The agent of claim 43, wherein the query engine transmits the search engine query to a search engine, the agent further comprising a results filter to receive a search result document from the queried search engine, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries, the results filter to filter the search result entries based on the determined interest, and select a subset of the search result entries.

49. (Previously Presented) The agent of claim 43, wherein the query engine constructs queries to perform searches using search engines on a plurality of web sites based on the user interest, and transmits the queries to the plurality of web sites.

50. (Previously Presented) The agent of claim 49, further comprising a results filter to receive search result documents from the web sites, the search result documents comprising a plurality of search result entries, to filter the search result entries based on the determined interest, and to select a subset of the search result entries.

51. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
a processor;
a network connection;
an activity monitor to monitor computer usage of a web browser of the computer system ~~by usage of~~ a computer user during an Internet session, to record information at the computer system including hypertext links selected by the user during the monitored

session, and to analyze the recorded hypertext links at the computer system to determine a user interest for the session; and

a query engine to automatically generate search engine queries at the computer system ~~to perform searches using search engines on a plurality of remote Internet web sites~~ based on the user interest, ~~and to transmit the queries~~ from the computer system to search engines on a the plurality of remote Internet web sites, and to receive query results at the computer system from the plurality of remote web sites based on the automatically generated query.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the activity monitor parses hypertext links selected by the user into words and determines the user interest based on the parsed words.

53. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein the activity monitor comprises keyword tables stored at the computer system and analyzes the hypertext links by comparing the hypertext links to the keyword tables to identify words that may be indicative of the user interest.

54. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the activity monitor records at least one of time spent at a network site, network pages bookmarked by the user, frequency that particular network pages are visited, and the content of visited network pages, and the activity monitor analyzes the recorded information and the hypertext links to determine a user interest for the session.

55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, further comprising a results filter to receive a search result document from queried search engines, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries, the results filter to filter

the search result entries based on the determined interest, and select a subset of the search result entries.

56. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

transmitting an initial a search query from a computer to a remote site over a network;

receiving a search result document at the computer from the site, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries obtained in response to the initial search query;

accessing pages at remote sites from the computer, the accessed pages being associated with at least some of the search result entries;

filtering the search result entries at the computer by comparing information from the accessed pages to the initial search query; and

selecting a subset of the search result entries based on the comparison.

57. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 56, wherein at least some of the information from the accessed pages comprises hypertext links to further pages associated with the respective search result entry, the method further comprising parsing hypertext links into constituent elements, and comparing the hypertext link constituent elements to elements of the initial search query.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 57, wherein selecting a subset of the search result entries comprises selecting using the comparison of information from accessed pages and the comparison of hypertext link constituent elements.

59. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 58, wherein at least some of the search result entries include a description of an associated document, the method further comprising parsing at least a portion of the descriptions into constituent elements, and comparing the description constituent elements to elements of the initial search query and wherein selecting a subset comprises selecting a subset using the description constituent elements comparison.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, further comprising generating a summary document comprised of the selected subset of the search result entries, and displaying the summary document.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 56, wherein the network comprises the Internet, and the site comprises a search engine at a remote World Wide Web site.

62. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 56, wherein the network comprises the Internet, the method further comprising transmitting the initial search query to a plurality of search engines at remote World Wide Web sites and receiving a plurality of search result documents from the search engines in response to the initial search query, each search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries.

63. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing instructions which, when executed by a computer machine, cause the computer machine to perform operations comprising:

transmitting initial search a search query from the computer to a remote site over a network;

receiving a search result document at the computer from the site, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries obtained in response to the initial search query;

accessing pages at remote sites from the computer, the accessed pages being associated with at least some of the search result entries;

filtering the search result entries at the computer by comparing information from the accessed pages to the initial search query; and

selecting a subset of the search result entries based on the comparison.

64. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 63, wherein at least some of the information from the accessed pages comprises hypertext links to further pages associated with the respective search results entry, the medium further comprising instructions which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform further operations comprising parsing hypertext links into constituent elements, and comparing the hypertext link constituent elements to elements of the initial search query.

65. (Currently Amended) The medium of Claim 64, wherein the instructions for selecting a subset of the search result entries comprise instructions which, when executed by the computer machine, cause the computer machine to perform further operations comprising selecting using the comparison of information from accessed pages and the comparison of hypertext link constituent elements.

66. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 63, wherein at least some of the search result entries include a description of an associated document, the medium further comprising instructions which, when executed by the computer machine, cause the computer machine to perform further operations comprising parsing at least a portion

of the descriptions into constituent elements, and comparing the description constituent elements to elements of the initial search query and wherein the instructions for selecting a subset comprise instructions which, when executed by the computer machine, cause the computer machine to perform further operations comprising selecting a subset using the description constituent elements comparison.

67. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a query engine to transmit initial a search query from a computer to a remote site over a network; and
a results filter to receive a search result document from the remote site in response to the initial search query, the search result document comprising a plurality of search result entries, the results filter further to access pages associated with at least some of the search result entries, to filter the search result entries by comparing information from the accessed pages to the initial search query, and to select a subset of the search result entries based on the comparison.

68. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 67, wherein at least some of the information from the accessed pages comprises hypertext links to further pages associated with the respective search result entry, and wherein the results filter parses hypertext links into constituent elements and compares the hypertext link constituent elements to elements of the initial search query.

69. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 67, wherein at least some of the search result entries include a description of an associated document, the results filter further to parse at least a portion of the descriptions into constituent elements, and compare the description constituent elements to elements of the initial search query.

70. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

- a processor;
- a network connection;
- a query engine to transmit using the network connection initial search queries to search engines at remote Internet sites; and
- a results filter to receive search result documents over the network connection from the remote search engines in response to the initial search queries, the search result documents comprising a plurality of search result entries, the results filter further to access pages associated with at least some of the search result entries, to filter the search result entries by comparing information from the accessed pages to the initial search queries ~~query~~, and to select a subset of the search result entries based on the comparison.

71. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 70, wherein at least some of the information from the accessed pages comprises hypertext links to further pages associated with the respective search result entry, and wherein the results filter parses hypertext links into constituent elements and compares the hypertext link constituent elements to elements of the initial search queries ~~query~~.

72. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 70, wherein at least some of the search result entries include a description of an associated document, the results filter further to parse at least a portion of the descriptions into constituent elements, and compare the description constituent elements to elements of the initial search queries ~~query~~.